



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

648 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

MARY C. WICKHAM  
County Counsel

October 27, 2016

TELEPHONE  
(213) 974-1609  
FACSIMILE  
(213) 626-2105  
TDD  
(213) 633-0901  
E-MAIL  
rgranbo@counsel.lacounty.gov

TO: LORI GLASGOW  
Executive Officer  
Board of Supervisors

Attention: Agenda Preparation

FROM: ROGER H. GRANBO  
Senior Assistant County Counsel  
Executive Office

RE: **Item for the Board of Supervisors' Agenda**  
**County Claims Board Recommendation**  
**Avean Edwards v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**United States District Court Case No. CV 15-02553**

Attached is the Agenda entry for the Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation regarding the above-referenced matter. Also attached is the Case Summary to be made available to the public.

It is requested that this recommendation and the Case Summary be placed on the Board of Supervisors' agenda.

RHG:scr

Attachments

## Board Agenda

### MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation: Authorize settlement of the matter Avean Edwards v. County of Los Angeles, et al., United States District Court Case No. CV 15-02553 in the amount of \$1,250,000 and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Sheriff's Department's budget.

This lawsuit alleges federal civil rights violations, wrongful death, and infliction of emotional distress arising out of the death of an inmate while incarcerated at Twin Towers Correctional facility.

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Avean Edwards v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	CV 15-02553
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	April 7, 2015
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 1,250,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	James J. Orland, Esquire Orland Law Group
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Millicent L. Rolon Principal Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>This is a recommendation to settle for \$1,250,000, inclusive of attorneys' fees and costs, a federal civil rights lawsuit filed by Avean Edwards against the County and former Interim Sheriff John Scott alleging wrongful death, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and federal civil rights violations arising out of the death of Earl Lee Johnson, Ms. Edwards' son, while he was incarcerated at the Twin Towers Correctional Facility.</p> <p>Because of the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs. Therefore, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$1,250,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 178,165
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 38,837